

## Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O:COVEY

APPROVED BY S/S-O:JOHNSON

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P 111741Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUNC KOREA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 054153

EXDIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEES TREAT AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION STATE FROM SEOUL 11 MAR.

QUOTE: S E C R E T SEOUL 1607

EXDIS

DEPT PASS CINCPAC AND CINCUNC KOREA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS KS VS

SUBJECT: F4D SALE AND ASSISTANCE TO VIETNAM

REF: A STATE 051251 B SEOUL 1337

1. AT REQUEST OF PRIME MINISTER , AMBASSADOR SNEIDER  
REVIEWED 4.1 MILLION DOLLAR F5A REHABILITATION COSTS  
WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER NAM THIS AFTERNOON. THE  
AMBASSADOR CAREFULLY OUTLINED THE BACKGROUND OF THIS  
REQUEST STRESSING THE PRESENT ACUTE NEED FOR ASSISTANCE  
IN VIETNAM IN THE FACE OF CURTAILED US APPROPRIATIONS.  
HE URGED THT THE ROKG, GIVEN ITS PREVIOUS INVOLVEMENT

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IN VIETNAM, WOULD WISH TO BE HELPFUL IN THIS SITUATION.

THE AMBASSADOR STATED THAT IF THE ROKG WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE THE 4.1 MILLION DOLLARS IN CASH, THE ROKG COULD MEET THESE COSTS BY PROVIDING OTHER SUPPLIES OR EQUIPMENT NORMALLY PROVIDED BY THE US UNDER THE MAP PROGRAM IN ORDER TO FREE AN EQUIVALENT SUM UNDER MAP TO MEET OTHER CIRITICAL NEEDS IN VIETNAM.

2. NAM SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN TASKED WITH SEEKING A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM. MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE (MND) HAD ALREADY DETERMINED THAT FUEL AND AMMUNITION COULD NOT BE PROVIDED FOR THIS PURPOSE OUT OF PRESENT KOREAN STOCKS. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE MND HAD STATED THAT KOREA WAS UNDER NO LEGAL OBLIGATION TO MEET THESE COSTS. THE AMBASSADOR OBSERVED THAT THE US HAD NOT BEEN UNDER LEGAL OBLIGATION TO SELL F4D'S WHICH NOW MUST BE REPLACED.

3. NAM STATED THAT HIS IMMEDIATE PROBLEM WAS TO FIND SOME MEANS FOR RAISING THE 1.9 BILLION WON EQUIVALENT FOR THE 4.1 MILLION DOLLARS TO FUND LOCAL COSTS. HE BELIEVED THAT MILITARY CLOTHING OR POSSIBLY CANNED GOODS PRODUCED IN KOREA MIGHT BE REQUIRED BY THE VIETNAMESE BUT THAT HE STILL FACED THE PROBLEM OF RAISING THE 1.9 BILLION WON REQUIRED FOR THIS PROCUREMENT. HE NOTED THAT THE ENTIRE TRANSACTION WOULD REQUIRE A PRIOR PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL.

4. AMBASSADOR SNEIDER AGREED WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER NAM TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH ON THIS SUBJECT.

5. COMMENT: NAM IS CLEARLY HAVING DIFFICULTY FUNDING 4.1 MILLION GIVEN ALREADY TIGHT BUDGETARY COMMITMENTS HE IS FACING. WE GATHER MND IS NOT TOO HELPFUL IN SEEKING SOLUTION.  
SNEIDER UNQTE INGERSOLL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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